

Bill 64, CD1
Additional Testimony

Testimony in Support of Bill 64 (2018), CD1
City Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Aloha kakou. My name is Sharlene Chun-Lum, residing in Halawa, Council District 6. I offer my testimony in support of Bill 64 (2018), CD1.

This bill, which allows for an expedited process for building permits for one- and two-family dwellings, will assist people like me who wish to update our home to make it more elder friendly, energy efficient and hurricane ready, while providing living space for my son and his family in the future.

I do have a concern, however. Before enacting this Bill, will there be more staff or a re-engineered processes in the Department of Planning and Permitting to allow for this to be successfully implemented?

Mahalo for allowing me to sharing my mana`o.



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RE: Support with Amendments – Bill 64, CD1

Aloha Council Chair and Council Members,

I am writing on behalf of Hawaiian Community Assets, a nonprofit HUD-approved housing counseling agency and member of the Partners in Housing alliance, to submit our testimony in support of Bill 64, CD1 with a suggested amendment.

As the State's largest HUD-approved housing counseling agency, our organization is keenly aware of the struggles experienced by our low- and moderate-income homebuyers in particular the delays in the permitting process. Our families often work with Habitat for Humanity and other self-help housing organizations to realize the dream of homeownership. While Bill 64 would ensure timely processing of permits for these families and lessen the cost on our nonprofit developer partners, our organization suggests amending the bill to give priority order to single family homes at or below \$350,000. This amended language would not only reaffirm the City's commitment to affordable homeownership opportunities for our low-income local workers and working families, but it would result in cost savings for our nonprofit developer partners so they are better positioned to build additional, affordable for-sale units for our families most in-need.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 64, CD1 with the suggested amendment. Please contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Gilbreath". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeff Gilbreath
Executive Director